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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

CAPE VERDE, GUINEA-BISSAU HOLD COOPERATION MEETING

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 9 Sep 80 p 1

[Text] Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde concluded the discussion of the general guidelines for the drafting of the first 4-year plan for the 2 sister countries last evening in Bissau.

Our delegation, headed by Comrade Vasco Cabral of the CEL [Executive Struggle Committee] and commissioner of economic coordination and planning, also included Comrades Bartolomeu Pereira, general director for economic studies and planning, Agostinho da Silva, of the general statistics office, and Mamadu Barry, also of the general international economic relations office, and Comrade Laudislau Dowbor served as technical adviser.

The delegation from Cape Verde was headed by Comrade Jose Brito, secretary of state for cooperation and planning, and it also included Comrades Virgilio Fernandes, general planning director, and Edgar Pinto, in charge of the statistics department.

The two delegations discussed the overall development of the economies and the plan organization work in the two countries, the bases for the drafting of the first Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde 4-Year Plan, and the methods to be used for drafting it, as well as its content and guidelines, studies and projects. The two delegations further analyzed the means required to implement the plan and regional projects within the framework of the Lome II Convention.

Also in connection with the plan, the officials heading the statistics departments in the two countries engaged in discussion with a view to the study of a whole complex of activities and cooperation to be pursued within the statistical field.

At the meeting, the projects and activities of public enterprises were also analyzed, and the goals to be achieved in the 1982-1985 period were established. It was also decided to create work groups in the two countries, and the officials who will see to closer contacts on the plan level and in inter-governmental activities were designated.

The initial guidelines for a sectorial strategy, particularly in the agricultural and industrial sectors, was also discussed, and a whole series of joint studies on the national level, with implications for both countries, were identified.

ANGOLA

BRIEFS

GDR DELEGATION--Luanda 26 Sep--A GDR delegation headed by the deputy minister of industry, Klaus Lohse, arrived yesterday in Luanda to participate in the second session of the work group dealing with the economy in the communes, which was created by the mixed Angola-GDR commission. Klaus Lohse declared that his visit was taking place within the framework of the implementation of the objectives defined in the friendship and cooperation agreement signed between the immortal leader of the Angolan revolution, Agostinho Neto, and Erich Honecker, the GDR head of state. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 27 Sep 80 p 8]

CSO: 4401

KOREAN SPECIALISTS HELP WORK ON PRESS PROJECT

Cotonou EHUZU in French 12 Sep 80 pp 1, 8

[Text] A team of seven Korean specialists is now staying in our country within the framework of the project concerning the Press House, a project whose implementation will be added to the already long list of concrete results of the fruitful cooperation prevailing between the Benin and Korean nations.

It was indeed on the occasion of the state visit which our great comrade in struggle, President Kerekou paid in July 1976 to the Korean Democratic People's Republic, that President Kim Il Sung gave this Press House as a present to Benin, yet another symbol of the friendship and solidarity between the two countries.

Therefore, to show his total dedication to working for the correct execution of this project, Comrade Martin Dohou Azonhiho made it a point to have a long talk yesterday with the Korean delegation, which had paid him a courtesy visit, and to set up the contacts.

After the Korean ambassador, His Excellency Son Tchan Sou introduced to the minister the members of the Korean mission, Comrade Martin Dohou Azonhiho welcomed them heartily. He emphasized the particular significance assumed by the erection in our country of a modern Press House for the social and cultural development of our country, and thanked consequently President Kim Il Sung, the great, respected and beloved leader of the Korean nation, for his great concern for Benin.

The leader of the Korean delegation, Comrade Hong Man Yang, thanked the Benin authorities for the cordial welcome granted to the Korean technicians ever since their arrival. Then he described the characteristics of the project, which he specified, took into account the objectives defined by the Benin government.

After mentioning that part of the building materials was already on the site, the head of the delegation ended with the assurance to the minister that the work will be beginning effectively in the course of this September.

The minister of information and propaganda, speaking once again to our Korean guests, promised to do everything to create for them the best working conditions for the success of their mission.

During the next few days, the Korean technicians will be meeting their Benin counterparts to study and solve all the problems connected with the rapid starting and satisfactory progress of the building work for the Press House. We may mention that during the talk, the minister was accompanied by the director-general of his ministry and the authorities of the National Bureau of Editing, Press and Printing (ONEPI).

9018

CSO: 4400

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

DACKO FAILS TO OVERCOME POLITICAL, ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Paris LE MONDE in French 21-22 Sep 80 p 6

[Article by Philippe Decraene--passages between slantlines originally published in italics]

[Text] Mr David Dacko, president of the Central African Republic, who on Saturday 20 September celebrates the first anniversary of his return to power, will be in France from 21 to 24 September.

Mr Dacko, who paid an official visit to Paris last March, will on Monday be the guest of Mr Valery Giscard d'Estaing for lunch at the Elysee.

The Central African chief of state sent Mr Giscard d'Estaing on Friday a message of gratitude "on the occasion of the first anniversary of my return to the Central African Republic, which put an end to the tyrannical regime."

A Poor Record

One year after "Operation Barracuda," thanks to which he ran Emperor Bokassa out of power, Mr Dacko is not overcoming the political and economic problems with which he has to deal. The eviction last month of the prime minister, Mr Bernard Ayandho, and that of the vice-president, Mr Henri Maidou, have apparently increased the isolation of a man whose most sure support remains the presence of the French army in his country.

Primarily because he was himself private adviser to the former emperor, President Dacko is not prepared to demand that their just desserts be given to those who were the main beneficiaries of the defunct imperial regime. Despite repeated requests for extradition made of the Ivorian government, Bokassa's successor has had no success on this score. Any extradition would moreover entail, during the proceedings, revelations which many Central African and French political officials would find distressing.

In any case, one year after having fled his country, the former sovereign is having a comfortable exile. His immense wealth remains in his possession. The imperial jewels remain mysteriously unfindable. None of Bokassa's accomplices who have been tried and sentenced to death have been executed.

No Dialog With Opponents

No real dialog has yet been established between the opposition and the government. Mr Dacko has several times reaffirmed his firm attachment to the single party [system] and has implicitly rejected any form of government of national unity. He keeps in detention former prime minister Ange Patasse* whose MLPC [Central African People's Liberation Movement] is still outside the law.

Dr Abel Goumba, head of the Ubangi Patriotic Front, continues to demand both the withdrawal of French troops from Central African territory and the holding of free elections; so no contact has been established between him and the president. Still headquartered in Cotonou, where he represents the WHO [World Health Organization], Dr Goumba himself is also adopting a posture of prudent expectancy, contenting himself with maintaining close ties with the representatives of the FPO [Ubangi Patriotic Front] in the People's Republic of the Congo [Brazzaville]. In the first FPO tract to arrive in Paris, Mr Goumba's position is clearly expressed: /"The real political cleavage at present in the Central African Republic is between supporters of national sovereignty (and thus of the departure of Dacko and the paratroopers) and the others."/

This is also the official view of the National Union of Central African Students [UNECA], one of whose leaders in Paris recently told us: /"Dacko is not there to serve the interests of the Central African people, but to serve those of France."/ Keenly aware of the key role they played last year in the fall of the empire, students and high school pupils accuse Bokassa's successor of having stolen the fruits of a victory dearly bought with the blood of several dozen of their comrades. In trying without success, to impose a single youth movement, by proceeding to the transfer of several teachers and to the suspension of payments on several study scholarships, Mr David Dacko has exacerbated the discontent of the youth. The nomination of Mr Alphonse Blague, former headmaster of the Lycee Boganda, thrown out by Bokassa in 1979, as minister of national education, has not appeased their rancor.

Economic Disaster

The deplorable administration of public finance under the empire and the total disorganization of economic production cycles, which functioned almost exclusively to the profit of the emperor and his intimates, had

* Mrs Patasse had brought to us a missive in which she states that she /"is still formally forbidden to visit"/ her husband, /"whose lawyers are not allowed to see him."/

catastrophic consequences for Central Africa. Not only did the problems inherited from the regime have to be overcome, but they were aggravated during the year just past, primarily because the unfortunate practices inherited from the old regime continue to work their ravages.

Also, anxious to get on with a rapid reduction in the expenditures of the state, the Central African president suspended recruitment into the civil service, stepped up forced retirements, and curbed promotions. This policy of austerity aroused deep discontent among the functionaries who do not want to pay the bill for the efforts at financial recovery that have been made over the last year. The increase in the number of [foreign] advisers and the recruitment of a certain number of Frenchmen have been resented as a corresponding deprivation of jobs for Central Africans.

In the economic field, despite partial restoration of the road network, thanks to the help of various international organizations, including the European Development Fund, Central African exports remain weak. Production of coffee and cotton have not yet reached normal levels, many peasants who had abandoned the fields and plantations under the old regime not having yet gone back to work. The diamond trade, once under the direct control of Bokassa, has not yet entirely been taken in hand by the state.

The recovery plan developed in Bangui with the help of French experts has not remedied the shortfall in food production. Poor weather conditions and the influx of refugees coming from Chad have created a deadly scarcity in the Birao region, which is quite distant from the capital and especially cut off. Following the death of some 50 children (LE MONDE of 7-8 September), the French government decided to send emergency food supplies to this zone, a measure which the Elysee made public Thursday. Help for the victims and an increase in economic and financial assistance to the government will also figure prominently in the talks Mr Dacko should have in Paris with President Valery Giscard d'Estaing Monday and with various members of the government.

The result of these conversations is awaited with all the more interest as France gives the impression of carefully calculating its assistance to Central African leaders. Certainly, French troops are stationed in Bangui. In fact, other units have also been in recent months installed in Bouar, the former French troop headquarters during the colonial era. But President Dacko's personal credit is all the more threatened in Paris as it declines in Bangui.

9516
CSO: 4400

CONDITIONS IN NDJAMENA, AMONG REFUGEES DESCRIBED

Paris LE MONDE in French 17 Sep 80 pp 1, 8

[Article by Patrice Claude--passages between slantlines originally published in italics]

[Text] The war which has been waged, since early April, by the forces grouped around Mr Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Chad transition government (GUNT), and the Northern Armed Forces (FAN) led by Mr Hissene Habre, has for about the last 3 weeks been in a state of increased intensity in Ndjamenena. In the location near Kousseri (Cameroon), the Chadian refugees still number in the tens of thousands.

Personalities belonging to both camps have recently made trips to expose their views. On the side of the coalition forces, Mr Ayyl Ahmat, minister of foreign affairs and head of the pro-Libyan faction (CDR-New Volcano) left Baghdad Monday 15 September for Damascus. Lt. Col. Kamougue, the head of PAT ("Southerners") was received last week in Paris by Mr Galley, minister of cooperation. Mr Hissene Habre, head of the Northern Armed Forces, who went to Lome (Togo) on 21 August, has since been well received in Guinea and Senegal.

Ndjamenena--The vultures wheel in the sky over Ndjamenena. It has been a long time since they were frightened by the fire of automatic weapons. The civil war continues in what used to be the capital of Chad. The front line has barely moved since 21 March, the beginning of the /"second battle."/ Today, Mr Hissene Habre's FAN is winning a block of houses, then losing it again. Tomorrow it will be Mr Goukouni Oueddei's FAP [People's Armed Forces] that will advance, then retreat. Neither the engagements on the front nor the daily pounding [of shells] which resumed three weeks ago, especially at night, seem able to change the precarious balance that has been achieved on the ground.

/Grasso modo,/ the FAN still holds the populous quarters, two-thirds of the capital, and what is called the /"African quarter"/, where the mosque, contrary to what has been claimed, still stands, its two minarets raised up to the sky. The forces of Mr Hissene Habre are also present on the tongue of land like a duck's bill at the confluence of the Chari and the Logone, which, at that spot, functions as the border between Chad and Cameroon.

As to the coalition forces of the government of national unity (GUNT), they are still occupying the southern outskirts of the city, including Farcha, and what was the residential quarter of Ndjamena, almost one-third of the old town. Thanks to the ferry which operates several hours a day between Kousséri in Cameroon and Farcha, we were able to circulate for several hours in this quarter.

Past the village of Farcha, the first thing that strikes one, after the confrontations so long and so violent, is the number of administrative buildings and diverse residences still standing. The local ministries of the bank for stabilization of cotton prices. The fuel depot, the special target of the FAN artillery, has not been touched. Men at arms guard the entrance under a huge and mocking [sign]: /"No Smoking."/

On Moktar-Ould-Daddah Avenue, pitted, several vehicles loaded with combattants are still driving around. Women carrying food on their heads vanish to re-supply the barracks. The vendors of beer and cigarettes parade before their meager stalls. For better or for worse, in the dusty and humid heat of Ndjamena, life goes on. One detail, however: the rare children who dare to leave the suburb of Farcha do not play anymore. Their elder brothers, starting at age 14 or 15, are playing soldier. Some have decorated their Kalashnikov with crude decals. Even in war it is sometimes hard to leave adolescence behind. Behind the reflecting glasses they particularly like to affect, they attentively observe the foreigner strolling along. /"These young people are the most dangerous,"/ a minister tells us. /"One doesn't know whom they obey, and as they have not been paid for more than a year, we can only expect them all to look out for their own interests."/

Ndjamena, over-armed, is a city where fear reigns. Everyone fears everyone. The ministers rarely leave their P.M. [expansion unknown] and all sleep with a Kalashnikov under the pillow. Who knows if this young man in a torn and dirty djelaba, machine-gun perched on his thin shoulder, is a friend or an enemy? Sure, since he is there, he hails from the "coalition forces." Coalition? /"There is no real joint command. Everyone belongs to a faction which tomorrow could decide to change camps."/

We tried to estimate, by cross-checking, the [size of the] forces presently in the city. The most numerous would be Mr Goukouni Oueddei's FAP, which counts close to 3,000 men, very young for the most part, sometimes recognizable by their Afro hair-do. Lt. Col. Kamougue, leader of the "Southerners," for his part commands several hundred FAP, including about 40 especially

responsible for the protection of the "Mobutu villa," the ex-residence for important guests, presently requisitioned by the vice president of the GUNT. The FAF keep the Farcha ferry, the radio [station], and the electric power plant that supplies current to the residential city several hours a day running. There remain the FAC combattants of Mr Aycl Ahmet, the minister of foreign affairs, alleged ally of Libya, of which there are around 4,500, not to forget several dozen members of other formations.

Close to 100,000 Refugees

We were not able to detect the distinctive markings that would make it possible to identify these different groups, but we were assured that they were on good terms with "27 camp" and the airport, which is unusable since the adversaires have SAM missiles to destroy any airplanes that would take the chance. The Libyan craft which keep the "coalition forces" supplied with weapons are constrained to position themselves at Dougoula, 90 km from Ndjamena, and a major delivery was supposed to have taken place the previous week.

Such, approximately, is the situation on the ground as seen from the side of the "coalition forces" of the GUNT. The FAN of Mr Hissene Habre seem practically encircled since the beginning of the conflict, but they have a possible opening toward Abeche for arms reprovisioning, and, like the others, they benefit from the neutrality of the Cameroon authorities to get food and gas. So far as can be determined, the war has already had more than 4,000 victims and no one, here, dares suggest a date for the end of the fighting.

/"Chad is another Lebanon,"/ we were often told.

At Kousseri (Cameroon), situated 500 m from the theater of operations, the refugees still number in the tens of thousands. At a distance of 2 km south of the city, the camp reserved for them by the Cameroonian authorities, under the aegis of the UNHCR and several other organizations (Red Cross, OXFAM, etc...) has seen its population diminish to less than 30,000 people. /"But they are twice as numerous in the city and its environs,"/ a doctor tells us. Not even counting those, less poor, who have come to put down stakes near Maroua and Garoua, and the exiles in Nigeria and Central Africa.

This unending overpopulation is not without grave problems. Of course, in financial terms, the Cameroonians have nothing to complain about. The tradesmen, who have doubled their prices, are doing a booming business. The local population makes use of the medical and health facilities put in place for the Chadians, and the permanent installations, along with the equipment, will remain...when the refugees have returned. Meanwhile, their presence is obviously liable to create political difficulties. President Ahidjo, who up to now has always been able to maintain national unity, may be fearful of the /"bad example"/ /"in front of our noses."/ The Muslims of North Cameroon themselves sometimes have belligerent fancies.

To all this must be added the bullets--and even, one day, a shell--which dropped down on the populace, sometimes causing injuries. Kousseri, which was a charming little sub-prefecture of 6-7,000 inhabitants, has taken on the appearance of an immense, dusty shanty-town. In the central market, where the inhabitants of Ndjamena come to do their shopping, Cameroonian police and soldiers, armed and helmeted, patrol between the stalls. In total, a thousand men have been sent here, which has considerably strengthened security, without nevertheless impeding the traffic of plundered goods in the Chadian capital (electrical appliances, furniture, etc.).

The Work of the French Doctors

In terms of sanitation, the situation is almost totally under control. In the camp, three wells have been dug, a dispensary under a tent operates all day, and another, in a permanent structure, is on the drawing board. The patients who need surgery are sent to the Kousseri hospital.

In the courtyard, men and women in rags are kneeling on their poor [prayer] rugs. It is the hour of devotions. Some are sleeping on mats with holes in them or even on the ground. Several children are playing between the tents reserved for the 45 hospitalized patients. Women blow on the fires lit to prepare the evening meal. /"These are the families of our patients,"/ we are told by the only surgeon in the area, French doctor-in-chief Dumurgie. /"They don't want to leave them, so we let them stay here."/ Are they well nourished? /"Only the sick are: 220 grams of meat and as much rice per day. Many get more to eat in the hospital than in the city."/ The doctor-in-chief and the 25 Frenchmen with him work a 12-hour day, seven days a week, with two days off per month to go to unwind at Maroua. Some of them are posted to the medical branch at Riguil, several kilometers south of the city, where the coalition force combattants are cared for.

At Kousseri, a city considered to be rather "pro-FAN," only Mr Hissene Habre's wounded, and civilians, can be treated. In August, 4,804 medical consultations were held, 150 surgical operations performed, and more than 1,600 infants put under dietetic surveillance. Conditions of treatment have considerably improved. Since 12 July, the French ministry of cooperation has administered the aid, though the personnel with few exceptions are still military. A laboratory for analysis and a radiographic center have been set up, the dispensary was restored, the surgical annex too, and a second, air conditioned, has been built (total cost of these operations: 100 million CFA francs). /"The equipment and medicaments we are receiving from France are the best that could be desired,"/ continues Dr Dumurgie. Of course, the French medical staff has been reduced by more than half, but, on the one hand, Cameroonian attendants and Chadian interpreters have enlisted, and, moreover, the number of wounded combattants sent to Kousseri has greatly diminished (less than 80 hospitalized presently, compared to more than 200 per day up to last April).

Could the fighting be less deadly? Perhaps, unless the heads of the factions are caring for their own wounded out of fear that, hospitalized, they will not go back into the combat. Leaving Ndjamena, on the road that leads to the Farcha ferry, toward peace, a barricade has been set up. When the pounding [of artillery] resumes, at nightfall, it is closed. One must certainly prevent runaways from taking refuge in Cameroon.

9516

CSO: 4400

AFRICAN ROOTS OF PDG AS SOLE PARTY INSTITUTION ANALYZED

Paris LE MOIS EN AFRIQUE in French Aug-Sep 80 pp 11, 13-19

[Article by Pierre Vermel: "The Democratic Party of Gabon"]

[Excerpts] The 13 March 1968 ordinance had dissolved all the old parties and had institutionalized the PDG as sole party, attributing to it a specific mission:

"It is the guarantor of national unity and of the abolition of ethnic discrimination. It is faithful to the fundamental principles of the Democratic African Rally (RDA) and is aimed at the economic and social progress of the country."

The PDG was conceived as a specifically Gabonese entity, whose aspects must be reviewed in loco without reference to foreign ideologies.

The Party's African Roots

We just saw the extent to which Gabonese intellectuals were affected by the contrast observed in France, where most of them spent long years of study: the party system appeared to them like loss of energy deriving from sterile quarrels, while Gen de Gaulle's presidential authority paved the way for an economic take-off thanks to the application of a degree of discipline.

The Gabonese regime is, therefore, of an essentially presidential nature, harking back to an old tribal concept of the authority of the head of the clan.

Indeed, one must admit that the African social structure is unlike ours. In Europe, it is no longer possible to find groups with a genuine solidarity between the conjugal family limited to the dwelling and the entire nation gathered under the mantle of state authority. Communes and regions are administrative entities which do not awaken any deep-seated communal feelings.

On the other hand, the African social structure did not acknowledge the couple as the basic nucleus, which is represented by a more extended family

group, sometimes including uncles--in particular maternal uncles--who could play a role at least as important as that of the father.

This extended family group was included in a clan grouping all those who claimed a common ancestor.

This basis of authority is essentially different from our European concepts based on the ballot or on force. The system of elections, as practiced in France, is a delegation of power for several years which bars any permanent discussion between the electors and the elected for the duration of the mandate. This juridical concept of the mandate shows that the mandatee substitutes himself to the mandator, who no longer possesses any means for genuine intervention until the next electoral process.

In Africa, the authority of the head of the clan does not allow him to replace another member of the clan. He only reigns by consensus, or, in other words, through the constant search for a general consensus. Hence the importance accorded to the palaver, which is not a discussion where everyone presents a number of arguments in hopes of advancing a personal thesis or ideology, but is a search for a common opinion to which the entire community gives its agreement.

The chief plays a major part, given the fact that his authority, which is based on consensus, can only be preserved if he himself appears as the conciliator whose words express clearly and adequately the thinking of the group. Therefore, he must succeed in convincing his fellow tribesmen, without attempting to impose a solution before the community has expressed its approval.

In a palaver, everyone can freely express one's opinion, no matter how long the speech might be. The goal is to examine all facets of a problem, to review all possible solutions--be they of the right or the left--in order to find the best one, or, at least, the most acceptable to the entire community.

The final decision is made upon receiving everyone's approval, even if tacit, because it is inconceivable that members of one society animated by a desire for the common good should not agree on a common solution, or at least accept the least evil one of several, since otherwise, someone would have proposed a better one to which the others could have given their approval.

When this general agreement is obtained, or when it is felt that it is imminent, the chief of the clan can render a decision, which will be acknowledged as the will of the totality of the group, including those members who may be absent or are deceased, since the chief is their spokesman; from that moment on, all will feel bound by this decision without being able to argue that they had not participated in its elaboration.

This method of collective consultation is obviously slow and sometimes delays the implementation of certain projects; however, it does offer one advantage: it is impossible to come back on decisions already taken since it would be necessary to obtain, once again, the general consensus.

Evolution of the Gabonese Democratic Party

Transposed in modern collective living, the spirit of consultation reigning over the palaver means that no one should attempt to defend at all costs a political or religious ideology; instead, discussion must focus, above all, on the means of rallying all the participants to the same point of view.

This common viewpoint will be expressed by the chief of the group in the name of all, and no one can brag of having sponsored it or having presented any objections, because the individual is superseded by the collectivity.

The chief's preeminence and the respect due him are the expression of his role as spokesman and guide of the community.

If the reader is willing to adopt this African concept of dialogue, to free his mind of every ideological notion and even cease to believe in the usefulness of following a given ideology, if he agrees to identify himself with a member of a living community, clan or extended family for whom the dialogue's objective is to participate in a general consensus on the solution to be adopted in any concrete issue, if he believes in the freedom of discussion whose corollary is the final rallying of all to the majority opinion, then he can look at the African process in a novel and innocent way.

Let us thus re-read the Gabonese president's declarations.

In his 12 March 1968 speech announcing the establishment of the sole party, President Bongo, after condemning favoritism and nepotism in the choice of civil servants, declared:

"This is why I have decided that there should be a sole party, within which the old, the young and the women will find their place and where our dirty linen will be washed in private: we shall thus be able to determine if Jacques or Paul deserve to be directors, ministers, ambassadors, etc."

This was an acknowledgment that the sole party was the venue for dialogue involving all classes of the population, who were thus offered the opportunity to criticize public servants.

Thus, the party's objective is not to defend a ready-made ideology but to achieve a true consultation of all citizens on the future of the country by compelling those better endowed--whom the Gabonese press calls "Pontes"--to submit themselves to the criticism of the "Makaya" who are the ordinary citizens.

This principle has become increasingly entrenched over the years, resulting now in a new electoral system barely outlined, whose application must not be judged according to the criteria of the French elections.

This new electoral system presents several significant aspects:

1. A deputy's mandate is incompatible with certain public offices whose list is quite long: ministers, highly-placed public servants, military, customs officials, etc.

The main leaders having thus been elbowed aside, the result has been an ascendancy of new men with a middle-class background, who may, at times, be ill-informed about political problems, but are better able to defend the viewpoint of the populace vis-a-vis public authorities.

Seventy-seven new deputies entered Parliament, which now numbers a total of 93, among whom are 13 women compared to 3 in the past.

2. Elections were held on two levels. The choice of candidates was first made by the party's local committees, resulting in the disqualification of politicians, relatives or friends of ministers or high officials who were disliked by the population, given the fact that the vote took place at the level of the communities or the rural zones where party members were operating under the watchful glance of their fellow citizens.

3. In the district of Libreville, the party committees only nominated one candidate for each deputy slot, and he was of course elected. In the provinces, there were often two candidates for each slot and thus the electorate was able to bring judgment on the popularity of those militants designated by the party.

This particular system--which will undoubtedly become generalized in the future--provides the opportunity to evaluate the real audience of the candidates, and thus to sort out those who would use a fictitious or complaisant popularity in an attempt to impose their authority on the party.

4. "All those elected to the National Assembly and those working in the various party organisms must always bear in mind that party statutes provide for the establishment of a disciplinary commission or the organization of earlier elections in case of need." (Excerpt of the 11 March 1980 presidential speech.)

Accordingly, a deputy has no assurance of being able to keep his mandate for the entire period. The threat of being tried by a disciplinary commission is a double-edged sword which may lead to the questioning of an election under the pressure of a population dissatisfied with the performance of the elected; however, it may also constitute a menace against that deputy who would not comply docilely with the instructions of the ruling circles.

This ambiguity between power at the base and authority imposed from above poses the problem of democracy within the party.

Does every committee correctly represent all the tendencies of the population whose grievances it expresses? Or is it only a conveyor belt for the orders issued by the higher circles of the party? Furthermore, does it even have the responsibility of overseeing the conduct of each citizen?

Depending on whether an ideologue will incline toward the right (or the left), he will have a tendency to answer negatively (or positively) to the first question and affirmatively (or negatively) to the last.

We have attempted to explain that African doctrine does not provide for an a priori answer to these questions. Experience will settle this ideological debate which appears sterile in this instance.

In fact, the first application of the electoral system conducted this year does not give one the opportunity to render an opinion: the meetings of the commissions were not simple formalities to ratify the choices effected by the central authorities. There were a number of sharp discussions at times, but the dominant authority of the president of the republic may have prompted certain opponents not to unmask themselves through overly precise criticism.

What will be the evolution of the political structures? Will this electoral system favor the formation of a new political class? Will this political class be of a conformist nature and will it be rapidly integrated into a network of economic advantages, thus becoming a tool of the party similar to a bureaucracy?

There is no political class in Gabon at present. The old party leaders are silent or have rejoined the PDG, which is entirely structured around its secretary general, the president of the republic.

The elite trained on the basis of modern techniques is still limited in numbers and occupies ministerial or administrative positions. The cadres just out of the universities are still too young to disregard the advice of their elders, who are preserving their traditional authority. The principal economic and financial interests are still dependent on foreign capital to the extent that there are no pressure groups as yet able to avail themselves of a national label. The army possesses neither the breadth nor the necessary cohesion so as to represent a political force.

All attempts at comparison with the classic system of parliamentary democracy are rendered useless by the non-existence of that class of notables who assume the role of intermediaries and mediators between the government and the people in the field of political organization, in France as well as in the U.S. In these countries, a notable is supposed to be aware of the state of mind of the lower classes and to possess a wide enough business

experience so as to provide the orientation for the entire nation's economic future. The best leaders who can seduce the people have their audiences reinforced through the addition of pressure groups supporting their electoral campaign, and feel compelled, as a result, to defend in all circumstances the economic and financial orientations of these local or private groups.

In Gabon, the absence of these intermediaries, be they professional politicians or spokesmen of local or private interests, has fostered the creation of a direct relationship between the president and the people. Contrary to common practice in France, the electoral campaign was not conducted through grandiloquent speeches aimed at magnifying the stature of the orator. On the contrary, party leaders eschewed a primary role, thus promoting freedom of discussion within the commissions.

These palavers at the base facilitated control by the citizens of the means of propaganda, which could not thus be mobilized by certain individuals possessing more important financial means.

Moreover, those who were already playing a dominant role in the management of the affairs of state could not become candidates to the National Assembly.

The future will tell whether this attempt will produce a new form of democracy in which the Makaya will acquire genuine control over the public activities of the "Pontes."

For the time being, the most apparent phenomenon has been the massive participation of the population in the elections at a goodly number of electoral offices.

It was a kind of important national holiday where it was felt everyone should be present, twice rather than just once, a fact that explains the imposing rate of participation and elicits a smile from the scrupulous observers from the European parties. This enthusiasm, prepared through the convincing activities of the party, was not mitigated by the use of compulsion attributable to any interference by the police or the army.

This important participation of the population in the country's political orientation was the government's deepest goal--that which the Shah of Iran was never able to reach.

CSO: 4400

BRIEFS

FIRESTONE TAKEOVER--Firestone International has decided to offer its interests in Firestone Ghana Ltd and Ghana Rubber Estate Ltd to the government of Ghana. A statement issued from the castle said as a minority shareholder in both companies, the government has accepted the offer and at the appropriate time, it will begin negotiations to determine the amount of compensation due Firestone for its shares in both companies. [AB111324 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 10 Oct 80 AB]

UNDP GRANT--The governing council of the United Nations Development Program, UNDP, has approved a grant of \$40 million to Ghana covering the period 1982 to 1986. Agreement on projects on which the grant would be utilized is yet to be reached. This was disclosed by the UNDP regional director for Africa, Mr Michel (Dokingue), in Accra yesterday when he called on the minister of finance and economic planning, Dr Amon Nikoi. Mr (Dokingue), who is in Ghana for a 5-day visit, said the UNDP attaches great importance to countries like Ghana, whose per capita incomes are very low. [Excerpt] [Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 14 Oct 80 AB]

CS0: 4420

OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON NEW AGREEMENTS WITH CUBA

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 22 Aug 80 p 2

[Article by M.A.P.]

[Text] The ties of friendship and cooperation that link Cuba and Guinea are brotherly and militant according to Marcel Cross, the African brother country's secretary of state for international cooperation.

Cross was interviewed by JUVENTUD REBELDE shortly after signing the protocol for the scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries for 1980-81 within the framework of the Second Session of the Cuba-Guinea Intergovernmental Commission.

On referring to the cooperation between the two countries for nearly 20 years, the Guinean leader emphasized that many of the young specialists who are now serving the Republic of Guinea were virtually born at the outset of this cooperation.

He added: "These young people are lucky not only because they have been raised and have become adults within the framework of solidarity and brotherhood that joint Presidents Fidel Castro and Sekou Toure but also because they have been brought up in a truly revolutionary and internationalist spirit."

The African leader added: "Every meeting between Cubans and Guineans improves our relations and pursues major work goals; we should be happy because these results will continue to be promoted in the conversations among experts, and this will inevitably lead to the concrete application of these talks."

The cooperation between Cuba and Guinea includes various areas such as public health, education, fishing, sports, construction and other fields.

Marcel Cross pointed out that there are doctors, engineers and agronomists, because in recent years Cuba has accepted and trained hundreds of Guinean young people who are now working in diverse areas of the national life in that country.

He went on to say: "But if we analyze this cooperation in the field, university professors, builders and numerous other specialists who are now contributing to the development of Guinea would have to be mentioned."

The Guinean leader said that with regard to their attitude the Cuban colleagues are very professional; they display an exemplary attitude and they behave like true revolutionaries.

Marcel Cross indicated that agriculture holds first place among the principal areas of cooperation in the hope that Guinea can find a solution to the food problem of the population through its natural resources.

Secondly, he also spoke of the development of the country's infrastructure where the serious problems that exist at present must be resolved, particularly in the housing sector.

He later stated that the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea would host the activities of the 20th anniversary of the Organization of African Unity [OAU] in 1983.

"This obligates us," he added "to count on an appropriate infrastructure which will allow us to receive close to 60 chiefs of state who will meet in Conakry at that time."

On referring to that OAU conclave, Marcel Cross pointed out that President Ahmed Sekou Toure was, along with other African chiefs of state, one of the founders of the Organization of African Unity.

"The unity of Africa is a vital question for the people of Guinea and for their leader, and we shall spare no effort in achieving it," he added.

"The celebration of that 20th anniversary in our nation," he concluded "is a historical event, and it is an honor for the people of Guinea to have been chosen to host those activities; we hope that they will serve to unite the people of our continent in the common fight."

9569

CSO: 4410

GUINEA-BISSAU

WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION CONGRATULATES CUBAN COUNTERPART

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 26 Aug 80 p 8

[Excerpts] "The 20-year life of the Federation of Cuban Women is certainly a source of tested experience, of desired projects, and the result is our knowledge," stressed Comrade Lilica Boal, a member of the National Commission of Guinea-Bissau Women, in a speech given in Bissau marking the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Federation of Women of the Socialist Republic of Cuba.

Speaking to the Cuban women who have come in successive groups to Guinea-Bissau since the total liberation of our country to participate with us in the effort to build our nation, particularly in the realms of education and health, Comrade Lilica Boal said that "this internationalist duty, which is another facet of the participation by Cuban women in the struggle for a better world, merits our great admiration. In fact, these women left their homes, their families, their children, to live in many cases under difficult physical conditions and in difficult environments in a country which after all is different in many respects from Cuba."

Lilica Boal further ventured that it is necessary to establish a richer exchange of experience and ideas with the Cuban women on missions in our country, so that "their contribution to the effort of national reconstruction in our country will not be limited merely to the realms of their respective professional specialties."

Participants in the ceremony included Comrades Chico Ba, representing the PAIGC, and Antonio Buscardini, president of the Guinea-Bissau-Cuba Friendship Association, the charge d'affaires at the Cuban embassy, Ramon Ferria, women from the Bissau Autonomous Sector, members of the Cuban community in our country and representatives of the UNTG [National Union of Guinea-Bissau Workers] and the JAAC and Soviet comrades in our country.

Comrade Lucette Tavares, for her part, said the following on behalf of the JAAC: "Neither sabotage nor blockade nor embassy maneuvers can hinder the advance of the Cuban revolution. A persuaded people and a women aware of

what true emancipation is are barriers too powerful for imperialism to overcome."

The members of and sympathizers with the Guinea-Bissau-Cuba Friendship Association, in the words of its vice president, Comrade Daniel Sow, "voice their dedication to Cuban women in this message, in accordance with one of the guiding principles of all the work, militant proletarian internationalism, and they are determined to continue and develop this principle constantly. With a view to its correct application, they take their inspiration from the resistance and struggle demonstrated by the heroines of our two sisterly peoples and the principles defined by the revolutionary vanguards of our two peoples, the PAIGC and the Communist Party of Cuba.

5157

CSO: 4401

GUINEA-BISSAU

EFFORT MADE TO HIRE PORTUGUESE PILOTS

Official Cooperation

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 28 Aug 80 p 2

[Text] Comrade Inacio Semedo Junior, general international cooperation director, left our country yesterday to visit various European capital cities, in Belgium, Italy and Portugal among other countries.

In Lisbon, Comrade Inacio Semedo will discuss the possibility of hiring some pilots to work for our Air Transport Company (LIA) with Portuguese bodies. This same official will discuss general aspects of cooperation between Belgium and Italy and Guinea-Bissau while in those countries.

Transportation Official

Bissau NO Pintcha in Portuguese 4 Sep 80 p 3

[Text] With a view to contacting pilots for our National Air Company, LIA, Comrade Alcibiades Tolentino, an adviser to the commissioner of transportation, traveled yesterday to the Portuguese capital, accompanied by Jose Luis Pombo, director of the Guinea Air Lines.

In Lisbon, Comrade Alcibiades will talk with pilots interested in coming to our country as cooperative workers, and will then meet with Comrade Inacio Semedo Junior, general international cooperation director, who is on a mission in that city to negotiate the respective contracts.

5157

CSO: 4401

GUINEA-BISSAU

FISHING WORKERS TO TRAIN IN USSR

Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 28 Aug 80 p 3

[Text] A group of 16 workers from the Star of the Sea Mixed Fishing Enterprise will depart for the Soviet Union tomorrow for 2 years of vocational training in that country in the various specialties the fishing sector requires. They will train as engine operators, radio telegraphers, electricians, metalworkers and specialized seamen, among other things.

The granting of these scholarships comes as a result of an agreement signed by the secretariat of state for fishing and the Soviet government, calling for the training of 16 fishing-sector cadres annually until 1985. This agreement provides for 2-year vocational training courses, as well as 3 years of training for the middle level and 6 for the highest.

The purpose of these courses is to train national cadres to replace all the Soviet subaltern personnel working in our country in this sector by 1985, and provide domestic crews for the vessels flying the flag of Guinea by 1990. When this training has been completed, the national cadres will also be able to ensure the operation of the cold-storage complex which will be built in Bissau, in cooperation with the Sovhispan mixed fishing enterprise.

3157

CSO: 4401

GUINEA-BISSAU

BRIEFS

VISIT TO GDR--Comrade Joao Bernardo Vieira, principal commissioner of the council of state commissioners and brigade commander of the revolutionary armed forces of the people, left Bissau today for the GDR, where he will pay a private visit of about 10 days. Comrade Joao Bernardo Vieira will make a brief stop in Paris during this trip. It is believed that this executive-branch head will talk with high officials in the GDR, which is a country with which Guinea-Bissau has enjoyed excellent bonds of friendship since the days of the armed national liberation struggle. These relations are currently reflected in various types of aid and actions of solidarity and militant cooperation. [Text] [Bissau NO PINTCHA in Portuguese 9 Sep 80 p 1] 5157

CSO: 4401

BRIEFS

ULTIMATUM TO BAKERIES--The speaker of the People's Redemption Council, Brig Gen Nicholas Poldiear, has issued an ultimatum ordering the owners of bakeries in the country to put bread on the Liberian market by tomorrow or be fined 500 each. Speaker Poldiear said any bakery which fails to honor the ultimatum will be fined because the PRC has learned that some bakery owners in the country have stopped making bread following a recent ruling that the price of brown bread should be set at 10 cents. He said the action is in complete defiance of the government and an attempt to continue to exploit the Liberian masses. He said members of the business community who are threatening the government into exploiting the masses had better close down their businesses. [sentence as heard] Speaker Poldiear said no anti-revolutionary activities will be allowed (?in modern) Liberia. He said the price of bread remains 10 cents for a piece of brown bread until government can reach a decision. He said a caretaker committee will be set up to study the issue of price increases. [Text] [AB142103 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 14 Oct 80]

CONFISCATED PROPERTIES MANAGEMENT--A new bureau has been created to manage properties confiscated by the PRC [People's Redemption Council] government. The chairman of the committee on confiscated property, armed forces Commanding General Thomas Quiwonkpa disclosed this to the Liberian News Agency in Monrovia today. He said the creation of the bureau was necessary to avoid corruption and mismanagement of confiscated properties. He said government had already allocated funds to administer the bureau. However, General Quiwonkpa said government had not generated enough money from farms already confiscated because equipment on the farms were taken away during the April coup. He said that proceeds from all confiscated properties must be paid into government revenue. General Quiwonkpa added that properties already confiscated included houses, machinery, gas stations and about 14 farms. [Text] [AB142050 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 14 Oct 80]

WORLD BANK LOAN--The World Bank has approved \$5 million for Liberia to promote petroleum exploration in the country. The loan will finance a new survey to be conducted along the 2,500 km of Liberia's offshore land where, according to a World Bank release, prospects for petroleum are apparent. [Excerpt] [Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 0625 GMT 10 Oct 80 AB]

BRIEFS

ITALIAN AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE--Nine specialists out of a group of 16 Italian technicians are in our country to devote their time exclusively to the 25 June State Collective Farm and the Pig and Sausage Firm of Maputo. The technicians are coming to these important sectors of our economy as part of a cooperative agreement reached between the Mozambique government and the League of Italian Cooperatives, an institution which is a part of the People's Solidarity Organization. In addition to technical assistance to the 25 June State Collective Farm, the agreement provides for the granting of 20 scholarships to Mozambican workers of that cattleraising production unit. [Excerpts] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 28 Aug 80 p 3] 8568

BRITISH PRIVATE ASSISTANCE--Lord Jellicoe, president of the British agroindustrial firm Tate and Lyle, stated yesterday in Maputo (where he has been since last Tuesday) that he hopes negotiations will soon be completed with the leaders of the Mozambique Government on his firm's participation in development projects in Mozambique. Speaking to the AIM (MOZAMBIQUE NEWS AGENCY), Lord Jellicoe said that Tate and Lyle can take part in Mozambique's economic development, particularly in the agricultural sector with emphasis on the sugar industry. Tate and Lyle have been operating in Mozambique for 16 years, and most of the country's sugar refineries have equipment manufactured and furnished by that company. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 29 Aug 80 p 1] 8568

PORTUGUESE WATERWORKS COOPERATION--Beira (Delegation)--A short and medium-term solution to the problem of water supply in several of the country's cities, particularly Maputo, Beira, Mocuba and Lichinga, is anticipated in studies being made by a Portuguese firm which specializes in the field of basic sanitation; this work is being done in our country within the scope of a contract calling for collaboration and technical assistance. The amount of funds involved in some of the projects to be developed by that firm comes to 40 million meticals, which shows the Mozambique government's concern in finding a solution to one of the principal problems affecting the people of our cities. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 29 Aug 80 p 4] 8568

GDR WORKERS'DONATION--"This is not a unilateral act. It is strengthening our common struggle, the construction of a socialist society in our countries. Solidarity has no fatherland. We are returning only a small part of the internationalist solidarity we are receiving in our difficult moments from the edifying example of the German Democratic Republic." This is one of the statements made by a representative of the Socialist Party on the occasion of an offer of solidarity from the GDR workers to the Mozambican people in a ceremony held Friday morning on Avenida das Forças Populares de Libertacao de Mozambique in Maputo. The ceremony was attended by Eduardo Arao, head of the party's organizational department, representing FRELIMO, and Bernd Huettnner, charge d'affaires at the GDR Embassy in Mozambique, representing the SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany]. The articles of solidarity include 12 tons of precooked soup, 195 experimental devices for physics students, 300 bicycles, 4,500 men's shirts, 7 multicopters and 15 typewriters. This newspaper item includes one aspect of the type of articles being sent by the GDR workers' unions. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 1 Sep 80 p 2] 8568

PARTY DELEGATION TO DPRK--A delegation of the FRELIMO party led by Alberto Chipande, a member of the party's permanent political committee, is in Pyongyang. In the Korean capital, the FRELIMO party delegation will participate in the work of the sixth congress of the Korean Workers Party. Alberto Chipande is accompanied by Jose Julio de Andrade, director in the office of the party president and head of the department of party cadres. [Text] [LD101430 Maputa Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 10 Oct 80 EA]

CSO: 4401

NIGER

BRIEFS

FIRST COAL PRODUCTION--The first ton of Niger's coal was mined yesterday at Anou Areren near Agadez. The production of this first ton took place in the presence of the prefect of the department and some other personalities of the region. This deposit will feed the thermal power complex in Anou Areren, which is expected to start functioning in 1983. The complex is expected to generate 3 million (as heard) kilowatt hours annually for the exploitation of uranium. [AB121411 Niamey Domestic Service in French 0900 GMT 12 Oct 80 AB]

CSO: 4400

CAMPAIGN TO BE LAUNCHED AGAINST BRIBERY

Lone LA NOUVELLE MARCHE in French 1 Oct 80 p 3

[Excerpts] The "dash," the "matabiche," or the "petit cadeau" [little gift] is a veritable institution in Nigeria where corruption tends to be acknowledged as legal even though the government has declared war against this scourge.

The most recent cry of alarm came from the Nigerian minister of civil aviation, Samkel Mafuyai, who appealed to the Nigerian press to "launch a campaign against corruption, a scourge," he said, "affecting our entire society."

The minister's reaction was in response to numerous complaints about the activities of the ground personnel of the "Nigerian Airways" airline, who systematically demand a "dash" to allow passengers to board an aircraft, even if the latter possess a ticket and a confirmed reservation.

This example is only one of many, and all new arrivals in the Nigerian capital are soon submitted to the institution of the "dash," whether they like it or not.

This phenomenon is more marked in Lagos (5 million inhabitants), where the law of the "naira" reigns and where the business world underwent considerable development in recent years.

Be it upon arrival at the international airport--where arguments can arise over perfectly valid documents--at the immigration service to obtain a residence permit or extend a visa valid for 3 months, or even at the "department for foreign nationals" (where every person who does not hail from one of the Commonwealth countries must register), the "dash" is supposed to fix everything, and even settle disputed cases.

In everyday life, the "dash" does not spare anyone; at the hotel to get a room, to obtain an appointment without waiting too long, to avoid having one's electricity or telephone service cut off, or just in the street when a policeman decides that one has broken the law, or even to recover lost papers that should be returned to their lawful owner.

This method is used not only by unemployed people, but also by a goodly number of public servants or privately employed persons, who are thus able, it is generally estimated, to double or triple their salaries.

Corruption in Nigeria will not disappear suddenly; it will take years before the measures adopted by the government bear fruit, especially in Lagos where business provides a livelihood to hundreds of thousands of people.

From now on, when a person acknowledges having received his "dash" (and he must have been caught red-handed), the amount received "fraudulently" will frequently be deducted from his salary or returned to the "donor."

In the capital or in the rest of the country--numbering 80 million souls--one can often find private enterprises which, when faced by the formidable institution of the "dash," feel compelled to pay monthly salaries to individuals ensuring a liaison with the various ministries or administrative entities in order to hasten the processing of their files.

The evil, however, does not derive from the fact that an individual demands money for a service rendered, but is traced to persons who pay systematically and blindly, therefore becoming accomplices of this irreversible system.

A Nigerian official who was recently noting this problem remarked: "Corruption was imported into Nigeria by the white settlers. It would unavoidably affect local people."

The government has its task cut out by wishing to fight against this scourge. Launching a press campaign against the phenomenon is of course necessary, but of primary importance is an acknowledgement of the situation by the people and a change of attitude by the "matabiche" givers.

CSO: 4400

SOMALIA

BRIEFS

SOMALIS FLEEING MENGISTU DRAFT--One hundred and fifty young western Somalis who fled the black abyssinian colonialists have entered Djibuti. These youths escaped from Dire Dawa at the end of last month when the Mengistu regime tried to force them to become soldiers. [Text] [LD171542 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 17 Oct 80 EA]

CSO: 4407

OLIVER TAMBO DISCUSSES NAMIBIA, LIBERATION PROSPECTS

Paris LE MONDE in French 14-15 Sep 80 p 4

[Article by Philippe Decraene--passages between slantlines originally published in italics]

[Text] Among the African personalities who are participating in the International Conference to Support the struggle of the Namibian People, which opened 11 September in Paris at UNESCO headquarters, is Mr Oliver Tambo, head of the African National Congress (ANC), the South African clandestine nationalist movement.

Born in 1917 in Pondoland, a former pupil at Angelican missions, Mr Oliver Tambo, who was one of the fellow students of former Botswana president Sir Seretse Khama, recently deceased, has a diploma in mathematics and the natural sciences from the university college of Fort-Hare. Having left teaching to become a lawyer, he entered the political arena at age 30.

An activist working first with Nelson Mandela, who has been in prison since 1964, he was vice president of the African National Congress from 1958 to 1967, then succeeded Nobel prize laureate Albert Luthuli to the presidency of the party after the latter's death in 1967. In exile for 20 years, the ANC leader resides mostly in Zambia, travelling often throughout the world to defend the cause of the black community in South Africa.

Same oval face, same pointed black goatee, the same look, too, as Patrice Lumumba, Mr Oliver Tambo has a physical appearance which cannot fail to recall that of the one-time Congolese leader. Manifesting the same militant zeal as the latter, he is nevertheless more pensive, less excitable, and much more sober in the expression of

his convictions. In an interview with LE MONDE, Mr Oliver Tambo has made a tour d'horizon of South African problems.

/"France has a sense of independence. How can it be brought to exercise this gift for the cause of the black community in South Africa?"/, Mr Oliver Tambo asks right away, pleading with an ardor that is not surprising in an advocate. Rejoicing at the announcement of the commutation of the death sentence handed down to Mr James Mange (LE MONDE of 13 September), the head of the ANC expresses his recognition /"of the international community which, cognizant of the risks that Mr Mange was incurring, mobilized itself to try to save him from death."/ In the same spirit, he is happy about the meeting in Paris, under the auspices of the UN, of the conference on solidarity with Namibia, but says: /"The real success of this conference, or its failure, will be in the follow-up to the decisions that will be taken here."/

A firm supporter of Namibia's SWAPO, /"because all African liberation movements are ultimately fighting the same enemy, and because Namibia and the South African Republic are the only two countries on the continent that have been spared decolonization,"/ he says: /"There exists no structural link between ANC and SWAPO, but our staffs remain in continuing contact. We cooperate closely in the field and we consider ourselves as two divisions belonging to the same army..."/

Happy with the sympathy found in France for those who struggle in Africa against the defenders of the apartheid system, our interlocutor nevertheless observes with regret: /"Perhaps we are expecting too much from the French ...Perhaps we are too demanding...But we deplore the fact that our cause cannot mobilize the hearts and minds as fully as was the case with the cause of the Vietnamese nationalists at the time of the war in Indochina..."/

And Mr Oliver Tambo is astonished at /"not at any time yet had any contact of any kind with any French officials."/ He considers this situation all the more paradoxical because /"France is not racist,"/ and because /"in the Netherlands, in Italy, and in Scandinavia, relations with political leaders are easy and frequent."/ He adds that the situation surprises him still more when he considers /"the good relations France has with all the African states, which all energetically condemn apartheid."/ According to the ANC leader, /"France continues to increase its trade with South Africa as it continued, once upon a time, to sell arms to the South Africans, in violation of the decisions of the UN..."/, a situation which, he says, /"has created real bitterness among the nationalists of southern Africa."/

/"We are at war with Botha, because he rejects majority rule, while for our part we reject anything but that," he says. Then, asked about the chances for negotiations between Pretoria and ANC officials, he answers: /"It is impossible to conceive of any idea of negotiations as long as men like Nelson Mandela or Walter Sisulu remain imprisoned on Robbin Island. Their release constitutes a pre-condition..."/ On the subject of this

majority nation, he maintains: /"Majority rule does not exclude the sharing of power with the minority communities. South Africa is made up of one sole people, belonging to different communities of different colors, all of whom have the right to exercise power..."/ His words evidence the same tolerance for nationalist formations other than ANC, as he says: /"We are not at the stage of rivalries between political parties, because our highest objective is first of all to eliminate the government of the Nationalist Party in Pretoria. Presently outlawed, forced into clandestine activity, the ANC maintains good relations with all movements opposing Botha, and actively encourages the formation of any organized group opposing this regime."/

Mr Tambo is categorical: /"We have many operational guerrilla units in the field already, but they are neither as numerous or as powerful as we would like, because our adversaries have any immense capability to resist, but we are gaining every day..."/ External aid remains modest, however, according to our interlocutor, who says that, through the intermediation of the Organization of African Unity many African states are at least giving diplomatic support to the ANC. In fact, for him, no doubt is possible. The step that promises to be decisive for the black South African nationalists is the upcoming independence of Namibia. /"When Namibia is decolonized,"/ says Mr Tambo, /"the end of colonial status for the people of color in South Africa will be near. The buffer which still protects the South Africans on their northern border will in fact have disappeared."/

9516

CSO: 4400

PAPER ALLEGES BELGIAN PLANS FOR PARATROOP MANEUVERS

LD221023 Brussels LE SOIR in French 11 Sep 80 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Belgian Paratroop Maneuvers in Zaire--Mr Poswick Challenged"]

[Text] The newspaper DE MORGEN has resumed its offensive against National Defense Minister Poswick's "Zairian plans." The Flemish Socialist Party newspaper announced on Tuesday morning that Mr Poswick wanted to send a paratroop battalion to Zaire where it would participate in Zairian army maneuvers. "An excellent way, according to military circles, to familiarize our boys with the African savanna," DE MORGEN reports. In the socialist newspaper's opinion, such exercises would represent an increase in Belgian military aid to Zaire and would be contrary to the government agreement.

According to a national defense office statement, during a recent visit to Zaire the minister was approached by Zairian officers who said that they would like to see Belgian troops participate in some exercises. The minister promised nothing but merely said that he would submit this request to his fellow ministers. The theme chosen for the maneuvers in question is "a foreign invasion," which, according to the National Defense Ministry, would be of special interest for the training and exercises of our 21st brigade.

In any case, the defense office has stated that it is out of the question to make an entire battalion participate in these maneuvers--either a trimmed-down battalion or a strengthened company would be involved.

The defense office believes that a desire for "familiarization with the African Savanna" is a logical argument since "you never know what may happen..." Finally, the Defense Ministry also insists that Minister Poswick has merely conveyed the content of Zaire's request to his fellow ministers--it is now up to the government to decide.

These national defense office statements have been denied by some well-informed sources. It would appear that the ministerial general policy committee vetoed on Monday any plans for military maneuvers in Zaire.

It has been learned from the same sources that Mr Panwijk promised the Zairian authorities that some maneuvers would take place in their country. The minister has even asked his staff to prepare these exercises. He also promised some "twinning" between Belgian and Zairian units which would affect the operational sphere. It seems that the general policy committee has also decided against such twinings.

The "African problem" certainly continues to ruffle the government!

CSO: 4400

IRAQI MOTIVES FOR FIGHTING IRAN GAIN APPROVAL

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 26 Sep 80 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text]

THE now open conflict between Iran and Iraq is very unfortunate and disturbing. World peace is dangerously at stake. The worsening situation must be defused somehow.

But the conflict has to be seen in its proper perspective. It shows, once again, the lengths to which fanaticism and human barbarity will go. It is obvious, in this case, that Iraq has been goaded into war by the self righteous religious rulers of Iran.

President Saddam Hussein of Iraq is basically a man of peace. But he can be equally ruthless when pushed too far. After all tolerance has its own limits and Iraq has gone beyond those limits. Hence her pre-emptive war action.

Hussein is not dealing with a stable, rational and pragmatic regime in Iran, but with a nation whose fanaticism under Ayatollah Khomeini makes it believe that no other nation has any right to be right.

Khomeini's Iran has openly been supporting the Kurdish rebels across the border in northern Iraq. To the south it occupied three Iraq islands at the mouth of the Arab Gulf.

Worse still it created intolerable difficulties for Iraq in the use of the Shat al Arab, the common border river estuary to the mouth of the Arab Gulf.

All this was in spite of the Algiers March 1975 treaty between the two countries demarcating land and river borders.

So Iraq naturally considered that Iran had breached its obligations.

Iraq has not acted impulsively. Last July President Hussein spoke anxiously about Iran's "hostile, covetous and expansionist intentions" against Iraq. He said:

"Initially we took a positive balanced stand towards the events in Iran. We supported the Iranian people's aspirations to attain freedom. We openly re-affirmed our keenness at establishing good relations, co-operation and good neighbourliness with Iran."

But this "honest stand" was met, he said, by Ayatollah "with hostile, obnoxious racism and vanity."

He blamed this on Iran's "grudge, backwardness, tyrannic mentality and deviating trends disguised under the cloaks of religion practising infidelity against true Islam."

But he added: "We also hope that favourable conditions will emerge in Iran in order to establish with it neighbourly relations and fruitful cooperation." Are these the words of a war-monger?

What is Khomeini really up to? First it was the Shah. Then came the hostages. Now it is Iraq. Where is his bizarre reasoning going to end? Is his shattering power of irrationality going to be allowed to upset the world balance of power more than any political event since Hitler's conquest of Europe in the name of xenophobic nationalism?

CSO: 4420

PLANS TO EXPAND PRESIDENT'S COLLEGE REPORTED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 29 Sep 80 p 5

[Text]

THE Party and its Government plan to decentralise the operations of the President's Citizenship College "so that the national cake can be shared by everybody," member of the Central Committee, Mr Reuben Kamanga, said in Lusaka yesterday.

Mr Kamanga who is Chairman of the Political and Legal Sub-Committee and the college council, said from the time the institution was established six years ago, the Party had decided to spread its functions.

"This decision still stands. As soon as funds become available, we shall set up regional centres of the college in every province so that the national cake can be shared by everybody," he said.

The college, which is near Kabwe, offers short courses in political science, industrial relations, personnel management and community develop-

ment.

But experts from various countries and foreign organisations like the International Labour Organisation, Frederick Ebert Foundation, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Norwegian Aid Development (Norad) have since left the college after completing their contracts.

All the posts they held have been Zambianised, including the post of deputy principal of the college, previously held by Dr Marcus Corman of West Germany which is held by Dr Goodwin Mvumba.

Meanwhile, Mr Kamanga said the country cannot make laws which would reduce freedom of individuals.

Asked whether the Government would introduce a law banning mothers with children on their backs from patronising bars as this tended to expose such children to juvenile delinquency, Mr Kamanga said:

"While it is of concern to see such social malpractices, introducing a law would not be the answer. The important thing is that this would cut down people's freedom. We don't want a society which creates laws for everything."

Stop misbehaving

People should instead look after themselves since drinking was a "personal" matter and the problem could be solved through a concerted effort in educating the masses about the evils of such practices.

Mr Kamanga said the Party, the Women's League and Government officials who were appealing to members of the public to stop misbehaving had a formidable task.

"It is up to us all concerned not to get tired of educating the people to stop the bad habits for their own good and the future generation," he said.

Effective tool

In his view, the Women's League could play a more effective role in educating women to stop the "cancer" because they were well disposed to their fellow women.

Mr Kamanga said if properly carried out, teaching was a very effective tool in changing people's attitudes and there was no reason to fail.

"If we stop and feel we have failed, the whole nation will collapse."

But the Party and its Government, he said, had not reached a stage where they would lose hope in solving social problems through teaching, which was a continuous process.

CSO: 4420

KAUNDA CALLS FOR STRENGTHENING TIES WITH HUNGARY

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 26 Sep 80 p 1

[Text]

PRESIDENT Kaunda last night called for practical contacts between Zambia and Hungary to carry out new tasks to benefit the peoples of the two countries.

The President was speaking at a State dinner he gave for visiting Hungarian President, Mr Pal Losonczi attended by Party Secretary-General Mr Mainza Chona, Prime Minister Mr Daniel Lisulo, members of the Central Committee, Cabinet ministers, Party and Government officials.

The people of Zambia and Hungary had known each other and had relations since the dark days of the independence struggle in Zambia. It was time now to expand and deepen further the foundations of these relations.

"We must pass quickly through the stages of talking about these relations and signing agreements about them to the stage of doing

practical tasks together.

"It is the successful carrying out of the new tasks and the enjoyments on mutual benefits by peoples that must cement the bonds between us," Dr Kaunda said.

He told his guest that he had come at a time when the Party and its Government were undertaking a serious adjustment of development programmes.

Zambia was born out of struggle and for the past 16 years she had known no peace.

While it was true that the Zambians laid down important foundations for their development and focussing attention on the liberation wars in Southern Africa, it was nevertheless true that her economic activity had been largely one of "care and maintenance".

The President added that the economy was care and maintenance in terms of the policy and programme the Party and set out to implement if there was peace.

He said: "Peace has now come to most of our borders except the Namibian front. Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola are today independent sovereign states of free and liberated peoples.

"Conflict and war around our frontiers with consequences of destabilisation,

strife and sabotage inside Zambia have retreated."

The frontiers of revolutionary war of liberation now lay in the Limpopo valley. Zambia would press on with the liberation of Namibia as before and the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa.

What was more, the challenge of development had taken new dimensions. She must develop her resources not only to defend her own revolution but the new victories for progressive change in Southern Africa.

By embarking on this new economic struggle, Zambia was joining Hungary in the fight to improve the welfare of the people.

In reply, Mr Losonczi told his host that his visit took place at a time when the preservation of the results of international detente made it imperative for close co-operation among all states interested in maintaining world peace and security.

He was certain that the forces of progress and peace would not allow the results of detente to be destroyed and "will exert joint efforts to create more favourable conditions for interstate cooperation and increase the possibilities of the people's struggle for peace and independence and curb imperialist influence"

President Losonczi noted that the people of Africa had arrived at the stage of their long and stubborn struggle against colonial oppression and all forms of racism.

Earlier, ministers from the two countries signed three agreements in various fields, following official talks between the two leaders and their delegations on bilateral co-operation held at State House on Tuesday.

In Livingstone, Southern Province member of the Central Committee, Mr Mungoni Liso, said it was traditionally inevitable that people freed from imperialist colonial rule should take the road to socialism.

Mr Liso was speaking at a luncheon he hosted for President Losonczi.

Addressing the luncheon, the Hungarian leader said Zambia and his country shared common interests as they were pursuing a socialist path for peace and prosperity.

Mr Losonczi said his country was ready to give assistance to Zambia for the success of the "food production programme" because of past experience in the agricultural field.

Earlier on arrival, Mr Losonczi who was accompanied by Mr Chona and member of the Central Committee, Mr Kapasa Makasa, was met at Livingstone airport by Mr Liso, provincial political secretary, Mr Axon Soko and many Party, Government and civic officials.

HIGH TAX SPARKS PROTEST IN MAKENI

No Services Received

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 29 Sep 80 p 1

[Text]

A SHOWDOWN is simmering between property owners of Makeni, south-west of Lusaka, and the Lusaka council over the local authority's decision to impose rates on them.

Makeni property owners are protesting against what they say are "inordinately high rates" applied to them by the council without the provision of the necessary services to the area by the council.

They feel the rates are unfair and unjust and are contrary to the principle of taxation.

In a petition to the council prominent Makeni residents have contended that the attitude of the local authority "is to extract as much revenue from them with no regard of their peculiar situation."

Father Pierre Dil of the Makeni Ecumenical Centre said last Thursday that the council was threatening to take the centre to court because it was unable to pay a rates bill of K1,300.

"We built the centre deliberately outside the city boundaries to avoid high rates. But now those boundaries have been extended to include the centre," he said.

Although part of Makeni is within the boundaries of Greater Lusaka, none of the usual services the council provides to other areas are enjoyed by the people of Makeni.

The petition says that while it may be theoretically logical to expect Makeni residents to pay rates like others do "in practice it is unfair and unjust to extract from them rates which are meant to finance services that they do not receive".

The council, in turn, has argued that rates are a form of taxation on property whether or not a local authority renders services such as refuse collection, sewage disposal, provision of water, road maintenance or street lights.

The residents contend that the accepted practice the world over "is that revenue raised by a local authority (including that from rates) is meant principally for the provision of certain recognised services".

They point out that it is largely for this reason that the mine townships on the Copperbelt, which provide their own services, are excluded from the rating systems of the towns established around them.

Refused

"The principle underlying this situation is that where no service is provided, no rates should be levied. Similarly, where only a partial service is rendered, proportionately reduced rates should be levied," the petition says.

The residents have refused to accept the arguments submitted by the city treasurer in his circular letter of January 29, justifying the imposition of rates which they regard

as "unjustifiably high".

The city treasurer argued that when determining the rateable value of properties in peri-urban areas like Makeni, the fact that no services are provided was taken into account by the council.

"We have found no proof of this assertion," retorted the residents in their petition.

The city treasurer also argued that Makeni residents "enjoy public facilities such as clinics, markets, car parks and others in the city centre and other parts of Lusaka provided by the council — they must therefore contribute towards costs of these."

But the petition says: "It is significant that none of the facilities he talks about have been extended to Makeni. The residents of Makeni are disadvantaged as they provide their own water, attend to their own refuse disposal at considerable cost."

'TIMES' Comment

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 29 Sep 80 p 1

[Editorial]

[Text]

IN Lusaka the people of Makeni are in revolt. They are protesting against unfair taxation by the city council without corresponding services. They are right.

The Lusaka city council should not be allowed to run away from its responsibilities. It must face them in Makeni. It must stop exploiting innocent residents.

In fact the same goes for all local authorities in Zambia. It is hardly surprising that many people have anything good to say about them.

Even with a measure of autonomy at their disposal they have continued to conduct themselves in a most disagreeable manner.

Far from showing any desire to relieve the suffering of the people in their localities, they have continued to demand increases in rents and rates and other services which they provide.

The plight of the Makeni residents is a case in point. In other areas rent increases are demanded even for houses built 20 or more years before independence.

These were houses built for "Africans" when the colonialists considered them no more than migrant labour. Most of them are today unfit for human habitation, assuming they are compared with other houses built after independence.

Yet Zambians continue to pay exorbitant rents of between K9 to K30 a month for such houses, some of which are no more than glorified hovels. Those with small-hold properties suffer extortionate rates.

The councils must surely know by now that in humanist Zambia a housing project is not launched solely for a quick profit from rents or rates on small-holdings.

Housing projects are there to house the homeless. Small-holdings are there to help the country in its battle for food power.

So when rents and rates are worked out, a return on investment should be anticipated in the long, rather than the short, term.

The motive by many councils for quick profits over rents and rates is nothing more than another grand conspiracy against the long suffering masses.

We suggest that with immediate effect rents and rates should be abolished or reduced to the barest minimum for the old houses in Chilenje, Matero, Chinika, Kamwala and Makeni in Lusaka; Buchi, Kwacha and Chimwemwe in Kitwe; Masala, Kabushi and Chifubu in Ndola.

Also included should be all the houses and small farm holdings in all the other lesser local authorities.

Whatever money was spent on those houses by the colonialists has surely been returned three or four times over. There is no more need to punish the tenants. Perhaps they should pay only for electricity, water and refuse disposal.

On the mines for example only nominal rent is paid for some of the old houses. That is what the councils should do.

REPORTAGE ON CPA CONFERENCE IN LUSAKA

Different Party Systems Examined

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 27 Sep 80 p 4

[Article by Mary Namakando]

[Text]

ZAMBIA is again at the centre of world attention with the hosting of the 26th Commonwealth Parliamentary conference.

More than 200 delegates from Commonwealth countries are in Lusaka to attend the conference which will be officially opened today by President Kaunda at Mulungushi Hall.

This conference which is reminiscent of the last Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Lusaka in terms of importance and attendance, will bring together yet again, "club" members to discuss matters of mutual interest — this time matters of legislation.

A crowded agenda awaits the delegates and will provide an opportunity to hold wide-ranging debate on issues which concern the Commonwealth in particular and the world in general.

Some of the issues to be discussed include the current threat to international peace and security.

Other topics are: international collaboration on combating drug addiction and trafficking, and a new strategy for the developing world which is a report of the independent commission on international development issues under the chairmanship of former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt.

Also to be discussed will be the one-party and multi-party parliaments — their relative advantages and disadvantages as well as the Member of Parliament, his functions and responsibilities.

The chairman of the conference will be Zambia's Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Robinson Nabulato, who is current President of the Commonwealth parliamentary association.

The association's other executive officers include, vice-President Moses Qionibaravi from Fiji chairman of the executive committee, Mr R.S. MacPherson from Jamaica and the honorary treasurer, Mr James Johnson from Britain.

This annual conference is organised by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) whose headquarters are in London.

The association was founded in 1911.

The association pursues its objectives through annual conferences such as this and regional conferences.

The inter-change of delegations, seminars and publications also helps in the pursuance of its objectives.

Conferences are arranged in such a manner that members are provided with opportunities to meet fellow parliamentarians from other parts of the Commonwealth.

As guests of the Zambian branch of the association, extensive plans for the visiting parliamentarians have been made for them to visit agricultural and industrial development projects.

And Derek Ingram of Gemini news service writes:

Annual

When Members of Parliament from Commonwealth countries hold their annual conference, this time in Lusaka, a look round the room at Mulungushi Hall and a check on the variety of delegations will prove that in the Commonwealth at least parliamentary democracy is thriving.

Never have so many Parliaments been represented at these meetings.

Whereas a few years ago several countries did not qualify to be there because they had no parliament in the proper sense of the word, today out of 44 nations only three are in this situation.

They are Seychelles, Grenada, and Uganda. A fourth parliament that used to attend these meetings is no longer in existence — Ulster's.

It was not a national parliament, but these meetings are attended by state and provincial assemblies as well.

This year Nigerian MPs will be present for the first time since military government took over in 1966. Only the Lagos Parliament is represented in Lusaka, but in 1981 it is expected that they will be joined by members from all the other 18 state parliaments in that country.

Other parliaments that have returned in the last year or two are those in Bangladesh and Ghana, which are no longer ruled by the military and Swaziland, where for several years the House of Assembly had been suspended.

These annual gatherings of MPs — last year's was in Wellington, New Zealand, and next year's is in Fiji — seldom make the headlines because they are not decision-making gatherings.

The wide-ranging work of the CPA, which exists, in a phrase, to help parliament work better and to enable parliamentarians to exchange ideas in a profession — if you can call it that — continually evolving in the light of practice and tradition.

Today parliaments in the Commonwealth no longer conform to the Westminster pattern, though they draw heavily on that experience.

Several—like that of Zambia itself — are one party assemblies. In some countries there are two chambers, in others like New Zealand only one.

The new Nigerian parliaments have been modelled to a large extent on the United States pattern.

Where the CPA gives invaluable, vital but unspectacular help is in helping countries to cope with tricky matters, like the way in which Parliament scrutinises public finance, for example.

Activity

Government activity has grown so fast in most Commonwealth countries in recent years that parliamentary scrutiny over public finance is inadequate and patchy.

To examine subjects like this in depth the CPA has instituted an annual study group of parliamentarians — civil servants, specialist commentators and other interested parties — to discuss a complex topic such as this and then write a report on it for publication.

On the first group were a former Prime Minister, Errol Barrow of Barbados, and people like the deputy Finance Minister of Malaysia and the chairman of the Public Accounts Committee of Zambia.

This first group's report, recently published, suggests that parliamentary procedure should be changed to allow votes on proposals to alter the details of spending plans

rather than the current widespread practice whereby plans have to be accepted or rejected as a whole.

This should be supplemented, where possible, by specialist committees undertaking detailed scrutiny of estimates.

This year another group is to put its mind to the scrutiny of science policy, which now is right out of hand because of the highly technical nature of the advances made in science in the last few decades.

This is another subject of intense interest to developing countries which find it immensely difficult to get objective and reliable advice about.

Many of them have to rely on what they are told by multinational companies or they are tied down to certain policies by countries from which they are receiving aid.

This group will sit in Ottawa and will include among its members a professor of chemistry from Singapore and Lord Shackleton of Britain, who has wide knowledge in the subject to be examined.

Work of this kind which is being carried out by the CPA may not seem to be of immediate or spectacular interest to the public at large.

The reality, however, is that the subjects it tackles are eventually important for all citizens if their rights are to be protected from the slow but ever threatening and throttling grip of bureaucracy.

[Text]

PRESIDENT Kaunda yesterday urged Commonwealth countries to stop condemning other nations' democratic processes.

Opening the 26th Commonwealth conference at Lusaka's Mulungushi Hall, Dr Kaunda said:

"There are some countries and people who regard the way they conduct their affairs as the only democratic process. They disregard and condemn other countries for any variations they make from their own, no matter how minute those variations may be."

The President said the earlier these beliefs and condemnations were discarded the better for the Commonwealth.

He told the conference that it was not one-party states or multi-party nations that were the best forms of democracy.

"In my opinion, the best form of democracy is the one which is acceptable to the majority of the population of a country — a democracy which provides for and upholds fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual, irrespective of tribe, race, sex, colour or creed," he said.

Dr Kaunda cited Zambia which, he said, did not want to give the impression that the one-party participatory democracy the people had freely chosen was the best form of democracy in the world.

But Zambians were, convinced that "textbook" democracy should not override the attitude and their inborn ability to work out a wider, more practical basis for democracy, he added.

The President emphasised that it was the desire of Zambians to go beyond parliamentary surroundings to the village using all democratic institutions available in their society as instruments for running their affairs.

He commended the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for working towards the creation of an effective 'Club' which was not only committed to ideals and principles of democracy and peace, but also to the attainment of freedom and liberty in areas where local conditions militated against these objectives.

The President said the development and maintenance of democratic institutions inside and outside the Commonwealth faced multiple challenges.

He said parliamentary institutions were being tested by problems created by forces beyond the control of any single state or government, however powerful and prosperous.

He reminded the delegates that the world was facing the rigours of inflation, unemployment, scarcity of food, population explosions and energy crisis.

Peace

It was against these challenges that man within and without the Commonwealth, man in a global society, was being required to establish genuine peace for himself.

"Genuine peace as we understand it in our humanist socialist revolution is that based on love for fellow-man, truth, justice and fair play."

Dr Kaunda paid tribute to the CPA for its free exchange of views and the depth and strength of its principles of democracy.

He said: "It is gratifying to observe that there are more similarities than dissimilarities in our parliamentary institutions. Credit must squarely go to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association which has superbly provided a broad forum for the clinical analysis of all forms of parliamentary institutions."

Members of the CPA had influenced each other and their various governments to appreciate the basic and central principles of parliamentary democracy, he said.

The President told delegates that the Commonwealth was now standing at the threshold of a new era and that the eighties held great promise.

"We should not lose any time to intensify the momentum gathered in the seventies as we build bridges of understanding across racial barriers."

"We should focus attention on changing the quality of life for man for the better, exploiting to the full our common heritage from a shared common colonial history."

He said Commonwealth countries had already identified a sameness or identity of political background resulting in adherence to similar parliamentary institutions.

"Armed with this background, we are ready to move forward to address ourselves to the unfulfilled tasks of our time. Politically the task relates to the eradication of minority rule based on the superiority of colour or race. Your influence in this regard will be as valuable now as it was in the case of Rhodesia," he said.

In the field of economics, the President said the Commonwealth should build strong bridges to narrow the gap between developed countries and developing countries.

But the burning issue in the economic field was the transferring of technology, adding that with the help of developed and industrialised countries in the Commonwealth, new under-developed and less industrialised countries should be assisted to acquire technology, he said.

And giving a vote of thanks to Dr Kaunda's speech, association vice-president Mr Moses Qionibaravi said Zambia's stand on international relations was a reflection of the country's philosophy of Humanism which was the basis of development.

Mr Qionibaravi who is representative of the house of representatives said, in accepting that man was the centre of all activities Humanism was in line with the philosophy of CPA.

He said Zambia had been able to stand resolutely exerting pressure which resulted in the birth of Zimbabwe.

"Economically and militarily, you had been among Frontline countries who stood resolutely exerting pressure that eventually brought contending parties to the conference table," he said.

Mr Qionibaravi who was referring to the success of the Commonwealth heads of state summit which Zambia hosted in August last year reminded the delegates that the world was aware of the pivotal role Zambia played.

He told the conference which is being attended by parliamentarians from Commonwealth member states that the association was concerned

with the deteriorating North-South relations and the urgency of seeking positive steps for its solution.

He called on the Commonwealth to take a leading role in initiating further discussions on the North-South relations.

Because the special session of the United Nations General Assembly came out without a solution to this important subject, even on the basis of negotiation, Mr Qionibaravi hoped the Commonwealth would show the world its validity as it did in the history of Zimbabwe.

He paid tribute to the Party and its Government for their efforts in launching the food production programme, adding that he was impressed by the trade and economic links Zambia had established with other countries through Dr Kaunda's recent visit to Eastern Europe, Asia and Japan.

ZCTU WARNS OF NATIONWIDE STRIKE

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 29 Sep 80 p 1

[Article by Peter Soko]

[Text]

THE Zambia Congress of Trade Unions has warned of a country-wide strike before the end of the year.

This is because the Party and its Government have allegedly failed to respond to workers' demands to improve their standard of living.

ZCTU chairman Mr Frederick Chiluba said yesterday that workers throughout the country must brace themselves for the industrial action.

Opening a seminar on economic and political administration for trade union leaders at the President's Citizenship College near Kabwe, he said he was prepared to go to jail for the workers' cause.

When he asked the trade union leaders whether they were prepared to be arrested, they shouted in unison: "Yes. We are ready to go to jail any time."

Mr Chiluba said if the Party and its Government took action against union leaders, it would not be for their sins but for their commitment to the welfare of workers and their families.

Press button

The ZCTU chief warned that he was ready to press the strike button "any time and workers will respond accordingly".

He ordered branch union leaders to stop issuing Press statements on labour matters with immediate effect saying this would be done by national chairmen and their general secretaries with the full knowledge of the ZCTU.

"We want to work in a very effective fashion. We in the ZCTU are ready to sanction a strike and this is the time for us all to unite and be prepared to die," he said.

Mr Chiluba said Zambians were no longer interested in hearing "lofty proclamations" which only raised hopes that subsequently became "irksome" illusions.

Workers must rededicate themselves to the cause of free and democratic trade unionism and social justice.

"We must learn to defend at all costs the work of trade unions in this country. To this end, we must oppose and fight all designs aimed at maiming the work and structure of the labour movement."

Governments were required to continue to appreciate and thank the voters by not only providing them with their daily needs but by ensuring that the freedom of those citizens to exercise their will was upheld.

Mr Chiluba recalled that the United Nations in its charter on human rights recognised the family unit as the basis of any government.

Unless this unit was taken care of, that government was incapable of running the nation's affairs.

While union leaders should sympathise with what the authorities were doing for the people, the labour movement must not accept "this Government's standoffishness" which seemed to indicate its inability to discharge its responsibilities.

"Law and order have become very expensive in this country to obtain. The crime wave is surpassing the Government's statistics to record," he said.

"Leaders in this country have become too ideological to be practical. They want to institute such changes as would make people bow to them and say thanks for everything they are given.

"Why can't miners, teachers, civil servants and all workers and citizens get their benefits? Why can't we have security, law and order restored and improved upon?" he asked.

"We will be prosecuted. We must suffer now. We must be jailed if necessary. Our workers must be on the alert. This is now time for less words and more action."

He warned that the ZCTU would not entertain squabbles which would weaken the labour movement.

Workers must look at issues and not leaders because he (Mr Chiluba) would need an army of uncompromisingly committed and dedicated worker soldiers to go along with

Congress Rejects New System

THE labour movement is in petition. Party Secretary-General Mr Mainza Chona opposing the implementation of the new decentralised local government system and what it termed "economic mismanagement" by the Party and its Government.

This came to light during a seminar on economic and political administration for top trade union leaders held at the President's Citizenship College near Kabwe yesterday.

The document marked "in confidence" and addressed to Mr Chona was circulated to the delegates who included Zambia Congress of Trade Unions chairman, Mr Frederick Chiluba, general secretary

Mr Newstead Zimba and top leaders of affiliated unions.

The petition declared the ZCTU's uncompromising stand with the Party and its Government if the latter went ahead to implement the new system.

The delegates were ordered to snatch the petition from a TIMES reporter. Others followed him outside and threatened to beat him up if he did not hand it in.

But sources close to the seminar said the delegates had unanimously approved details of the petition, saying the Government decision on the matter was not in the interest of the workers.

They could not say how soon

the document, which criticised the economic, political and social policies of the Party and its Government, would be presented but noted that Mr Chiluba would travel to Lusaka after the meeting to seek audience with the Party chief.

Mr Chona is out of the country leading a Party delegation to China and Korea.

In his opening remarks Mr Chiluba questioned the Party and its Government idea of developing the country with passions "without the properly directed priorities".

He said he was told the Government was doing everything possible to provide the required services to the people but that lack of money was the main constraint.

"What about those designs being created like the new local government administration, will it not cost money? Where will money come from? Why can't we use the same money to improve the existing structures?"

"What are this country's priorities? What are people asking for, more flags or jobs?" he asked.

Mr Chiluba urged the seminar to debate such issues without fear "because people's needs must not only be known but be seen to be provided".

"If we are rejecting decentralisation or calling for modification, we say so. We must take a clear stand even if it has to be the very last one."

CSO: 4420

CIVIL SERVICE UNION REFUSES TO END DISPUTE WITH GOVERNMENT

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 27 Sep 80 p 2

(Text)

THE Civil Servants Union of Zambia has rejected requests from ministers and leaders to withdraw the dispute it has declared with the Government over the appointment of the administrative committee of inquiry to look into the salaries and conditions of service in the public service.

National chairman, Mr Bresfold Gondwe, said in Ndola yesterday that as far as his union was concerned it would go on with the dispute "until we see it to its logical conclusion".

He said the union refused to accept the committee of inquiry because some of the proposals which had been presented to the Government had already been negotiated for and finalised.

"At the last general con-

ference we decided that we should put to the Government our requirements and we did this in a 42-page document but as we were opening the last pages of this paper the Government found it fit to appoint the committee of inquiry," he said.

The other reason was that among the terms of reference used by members of the committee was one in which they have to make recommendations with a view of reducing the size of the civil service.

Mr Gondwe said: "It would be an exhibition of mistrust to our members if we accepted a committee which is contemplating firing some of them."

He said it was surprising to note that the Government was working on reducing the number of workers in the civil service when there was a high rate of unemployment in the country. At the moment about one seventh of the population was in employment, he said.

Instead of reducing the number of workers, he said, the Government should think of creating more job opportu-

nities to cut down on unemployment.

Mr Gondwe said the union refused to have anything to do with the committee because it believed in collective bargaining and not in commissions of inquiry.

He said that the Government should not use its political powers to manipulate the Industrial Relations Act because this would not augur well for the labour movement and workers throughout the country.

He said in a humanistic state like Zambia it was "scandalous" to have in existence the kind of salary disparities that we have now.

He did not understand why each time union members threatened to go on strike to back their demands leaders and ministers told them to follow the right channels.

"What channels should we follow? The channels we follow have been laid down by the Government. When we declared the dispute, the same people stood up and said we should withdraw."

"As far as we are concerned we are not backing down because we believe in collective bargaining," Mr Gondwe said.

ILLEGAL TOBACCO SALES COST STATE K10M

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 26 Sep 80 p 7

[Text]

THE Government is losing about K10 million every year because large quantities of tobacco are sold on the black market, Tobacco Board of Zambia company secretary, Mr Victor Mwaba, said in Lusaka yesterday.

Mr Mwaba said an estimated one million kg of tobacco is sold on the black market every year and if this was sold to TBZ, the Government would earn about K10 million in tax duty.

Repeated pleas to the police to help curb the illegal sale of tobacco on the black market had failed.

Mr Mwaba said farmers sold their tobacco to marketeers and if one went to any market today, he would find a lot of tobacco.

The TBZ was the legal buyer of tobacco in the country and it was illegal for farmers to sell their crop to marketeers, Mr Mwaba said.

He added that the TBZ had sought police help since 1974, but the police seemed to be doing nothing about it.

Meanwhile, workers in the department of agriculture have been told to do their utmost to help farmers increase their output and make the ten-year operation food programme a success.

Solwezi governor Mr Sylvester Sikufweba addressing a district council meeting said it was imperative that farmers should be given technical guidance and supplied with farm requisites in good time.

He pointed out that the Party and its Government attached great importance to the operation food programme and efforts should be made to ensure its success.

The fact that President Kaunda was chairman of the steering committee to coordinate activities from all parts of the country was testimony of the importance attached to the programme, he added.

He directed that farmers should be visited by agriculture workers — Zana.

COBALT SYMPOSIUM CONSIDERED 'HUGE SUCCESS'

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 26 Sep 80 p 4

[Text]

ROAN Consolidated Mine's (RCM), managing director Mr David Phiri has described the cobalt symposium organised at Chambeshi mine recently as a great success.

One company has already placed an order for 4.5 tonnes of cobalt following the first symposium. "We expect more orders," said Mr Phiri in a Press release yesterday.

The three-day symposium attended by 20 representatives from cobalt consumer companies in the United States, Britain and West Germany; was intended to give them first-hand knowledge of RCM's cobalt industry.

Mr Phiri said participants in the symposium were impressed with what RCM was doing in improving the cobalt sector of its operations.

"These people are our customers or potential customers and we felt it important that they know what we are doing in the cobalt sector," Mr Phiri said.

RCM technical director, Mr John Harper, said although some of RCM's technical people had visited cobalt customers and potential buyers abroad, the symposium gave his technical staff an opportunity to meet many representatives from cobalt user companies.

"The symposium enabled us to show the representatives of cobalt user companies what we are doing and what we have planned for the future to ensure guaranteed supplies of high quality cobalt.

"It also afforded the customers a chance to present their requirements on quantity and quality over the next few years," he said.

Among the companies represented were Howmet, the producer of cast components for gas turbine engines in the Western world and the principal supplier to Rolls Royce, General Electric and Pratt and Whitney. Hall

Chemical which is the largest single consumer of cobalt in the world; and Hitachi, the leading US manufacturers of magnets.

In addition to touring the three divisions of RCM, delegates visited the Kafue National Park and the Victoria Falls in Livingstone.

Meanwhile, RCM is installing a vacuum refining plant at the cobalt plant at Chambeshi, to refine the cobalt cathode metal under production.

The vacuum refining process is expected to eliminate lead, zinc and cadmium impurities from the metal to make Zambian cobalt the best in the world.

ZAMBIA

BRIEFS

TRADE WITH BANGLADESH--Bangladesh will export jute products worth K6.6 million to Zambia this year under a deal signed in Dacca yesterday, the official news agency reported yesterday. The deal was between two state owned companies of Bangladesh and Zambia. Bangladesh last year exported 225,000 tonnes of jute goods worth K193 million to Zambia, its biggest buyer in East Africa in recent years. [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 28 Sep 80 p 3]

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